HYMN XXVIII.

SILENCE.

I.

BEfore thy betters with ſuſpence,
Into thyſelf withdraw;
Silence denotes ſuperior ſenſe,
And ſhews ſuperior awe.

Keep

II.

Keep bleſſing ſtill within thy heart,
In meditation meek;
Thus thou'rt prepar'd to act thy part,
When urg'd at length to ſpeak.

III.

When words break forth not duly weigh'd
From out the babler's tongue,
Full many a mournful miſchief's made,
Full many a conſcience ſtung.

IV.

Then pray with David, that the Lord
Wou'd keep himſelf the door;
And all things from thy lips award,
That make thy brother ſore.

V.

But if there be a point to praiſe
Some godly deed of price,
With all thy might thy plaudits raiſe,
Here ſilence were a vice.

HYMN

CHRISTOPHER SMART *Hymns for the Amusement of Children* LONDON, 1775 HASKOLL COLLECTION, THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY Octavo